Case 1-18-01033-cec Doc 62-9 Filed 10/29/18 Entered 10/29/18 14:19:01

EXHIBIT F

1

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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In re:

Chapter 9

SUFFOLK REGIONAL OFF-TRACK BETTING Case No. CORPORATION, 12-43503-CEC

Adjusted Debtor.

----X

JENNIFER TOMASINO, KEVIN MONTANO, RICHARD MEYER, and APRYL L. MEYER,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

Adv. Proc. No. 18-1033-CEC

INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF ISLANDIA, BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF ISLANDIA, DELAWARE NORTH ISLANDIA PROPERTIES, LLC, aka DELAWARE NORTH, and SUFFOLK REGIONAL OFF-TRACK BETTING CORPORATION,

Defendants.

----X

October 15, 2018 10:18 a.m.

100 Motor Parkway Hauppauge, New York

DEPOSITION of APRYL MEYER, a Plaintiff
herein, taken by Adversarial Parties, pursuant
to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and Notice,
held at the above-mentioned time and place,
before Edward Leto, a Notary Public of the State
of New York.

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2
 1
 2
     APPEARANCES:
 3
 4
          LAW OFFICES OF ANTON J. BOROVINA
               Attorneys for Plaintiffs
 5
               225 Broad Hollow Road, Suite 303
               Melville, New York 11747
 6
          BY: ANTON J. BOROVINA, ESQ.
 7
 8
          SINNREICH KOSAKOFF MESSINA, LLP
               Attorneys for Defendants Incorporated
               Village of Islandia and Board of
               Trustees of the Village of Islandia
10
               267 Carleton Avenue, Suite 301
               Central Islip, New York 11722
11
12
         BY: MICHAEL STANTON, ESQ.
13
          HODGSON RUSS, LLP
14
               Attorneys for Defendants Delaware
               North Islandia Properties, LLC aka
15
               Delaware North
               140 Pearl Street, Suite 100
16
               Buffalo, New York 14202
17
          BY: CHARLES W. MALCOMB, ESQ.
18
19
          ECKERT SEAMANS CHERIN & MELLOTT, LLC
20
               Attorneys for Adjusted
               Debtor/Defendant Suffolk Regional
21
               Off-Track Betting Corporation
               10 Bank Street, Suite 700
22
               White Plains, New York 10606
23
          BY: CHRISTOPHER F. GRAHAM, ESQ.
               REN-ANN WANG, ESQ., of Counsel
24
25
```

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3
 1
 2
                   FEDERAL STIPULATIONS
            IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by
     and between the parties hereto, through their
     respective counsel, that the certification,
     sealing and filing of the within examination
     will be and the same are hereby waived;
            IT IS FURTHER STIPULATED AND AGREED
10
     that all objections, except as to the form of
11
     the question, will be reserved to the time of
12
     the trial;
13
            IT IS FURTHER STIPULATED AND AGREED that
14
     the within examination may be signed before any
15
     Notary Public with the same force and effect as
16
     if signed and sworn to before this Court.
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
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```
4
 1
                         A. Meyer
 2
     APRYL MEYER, the Witness herein,
 3
          having been first duly sworn by a Notary
          Public in and of the State of New York, was
          examined and testified as follows:
     EXAMINATION BY
     MR. MALCOMB:
 8
                   Please state your full name for
            Q
 9
     the record.
10
                   Apryl Meyer.
            Α
11
                   What is your current address?
12
                   1 Dawson Court, Islandia, New York
            Α
13
     11749.
14
                           (A. Meyer Exhibit A,
15
                   Amended Complaint, was marked for
16
                   identification, as of this date.)
17
                   Hi, Ms. Meyer. How are you doing
18
     today?
19
                   Good, how are you?
20
                   Good. My name is Chuck Malcomb.
21
     I'm an attorney with Hodgson Russ. I represent
22
     Delaware North, one of the Defendants in this
23
     matter.
24
                   Have you ever been deposed before?
25
            Α
                   Once before.
```

```
16
 1
                          A. Meyer
 2
     the contractor gave you?
 3
            Α
                   Yes.
                   And then you wanted some upgrades
 4
     so you paid that much more, right?
 5
 6
                   Right.
            A
 7
                    So, at the time you bought it,
     there was still an opportunity for you to make
 8
     changes to the house, right?
 9
10
            Α
                    Yes.
11
                   When you bought your home, did you
12
     look at the zoning regulations in the Village of
13
     Islandia?
14
                    I didn't.
            A
15
                   Did you look at the Master Plan?
16
            Α
                    I didn't. I didn't know what a
     Master Plan even was.
17
18
                    So, you didn't rely on the Master
19
     Plan when you bought your house?
20
            Α
                   No.
21
            Q
                   You didn't rely on the zoning
22
     regulations when you bought your house?
23
            Α
                   No.
24
                    Did you investigate the
25
     surrounding land uses at the time you bought?
```

```
17
 1
                         A. Meyer
 2
                   Meaning?
            Α
 3
                   Did you take a drive around and
            0
     look at what was going on around your proposed
 4
     location?
                   I did.
                           I actually grew up fairly
     close to that area, so when we purchased the
 8
     home I kind of knew the surrounding areas.
 9
                   Where did you grow up?
10
                   In Islip Terrace.
11
                   So what did you observe when you
12
     were kind of doing your investigation of the
13
     area?
14
                   I mean, we saw, you know, the
15
     casino. The first thing my husband said was the
16
     hotel; he said, you know, do you want to live
     this close to a hotel, and I said well, I've
17
     actually worked in that hotel. I've done jobs
18
19
     in there and it was always quiet. Never really
20
     any traffic or cars, so it didn't bother us at
21
     the time at all.
22
                   What were the land uses you
23
     noticed when you were looking at buying the
24
     place around the area?
25
            Α
                   Well, there was the Park & Ride
```

35 1 A. Meyer 2 because, I mean, we live in a village and we 3 know that no casinos were allowed to be in the 4 village, so -- I mean, yes, in an industrial area you would assume so, but we don't live in an industrial area. 7 I'm just asking you in a zoning district that allows industrial and 8 manufacturing type uses, warehousing uses, would 10 it be appropriate to locate a VLT facility in that zoning district? 11 12 MR. BOROVINA: Continuing 13 objection. 14 If it was within legal Α 15 ramifications, yes. 16 Thank you. I want to go back to 17 the questions that I asked you about Suffolk County Concerned Citizens. You mentioned that 18 19 you were the treasurer? 20 Yes. Α 21 In that context, correct me if I'm 22 mistaken, but you said that you were part of 23 founding that group, right? 24 Α Yes. 25 And that you worked together with

```
44
 1
                         A. Meyer
 2
                   Do you agree with that statement?
 3
                   I do.
            Α
                   Could you tell me what you relied
 5
     upon to make the allegation that your property
     value has gone down?
                   Just a lot of research that we've
            Α
 8
     done.
                   Could you detail that?
10
                   Do I know where I looked
11
     specifically? I looked in a lot of different
12
     places that I don't recall off the top of my
13
     head, but one of the studies we did, it showed
14
     that we were the closest residential area to a
15
     casino in North America, and usually it's 20
16
     percent loss of value when you're anywhere even
     near a casino within a one- to two-mile radius.
17
18
     And we're the closest, so.
19
                   And what information are you
20
     basing that 20 percent figure on?
21
            Α
                   What do you mean "what
22
     information"? Just the research we've done.
23
                   What sources did you use?
            0
24
                   I don't remember where I looked it
            Α
25
     up, but we looked up a lot of different things.
```

```
45
 1
                          A. Meyer
                   Online materials?
 2
            0
 3
            Α
                   Yes, a lot of that.
                   People in the Concerned Citizens
 5
     group shared some stuff with you probably,
 6
     right?
                   Yes, and we had some people come
 8
     in and speak on behalf of where they live. You
 9
     know, if they lived close to a casino, they
10
     spoke and gave us their stories as well.
11
                   And what was the information that
12
     you derived from that on property value?
13
                   I'm sorry?
14
                   What information did you get from
15
     those speakers about property value?
16
            Α
                   That it would be diminished pretty
     significantly.
17
18
                   Did they provide any studies or
19
     evaluations that you can recall?
20
            Α
                   They did. They did.
21
            0
                   Do you remember what they were?
22
            Α
                   I don't remember.
23
                   Did you hire any type of an
            0
24
     expert, did you personally or did Concerned
25
     Citizens hire any type of an expert on property
```

```
46
 1
                          A. Meyer
 2
     values?
 3
            Α
                   No.
                   Did you talk to any appraiser
 5
     about this issue?
 6
                   We have a friend who's an
     appraiser and he did say that it would go down
 8
     in value, but he didn't write anything down for
 9
     us.
10
                   And he didn't look at your house
     or look at your area, right?
11
12
            Α
                   No.
13
                   Look at paragraph 78 if you could.
14
     "Delaware North's use of the premises is
15
     presently causing and effecting and, unless
16
     abated, will continue to cause and effect a
     directly related, local and more intense
17
18
     increase in crime rates, prostitution, public
19
     intoxication, gambling and drug addiction and a
20
     diminution of Plaintiffs' respective
21
     properties, " do you see that?
22
            A
                   Yes.
23
            0
                   Did I read that accurately?
24
            Α
                   Yes.
25
                   Do you agree with that statement?
            Q
```

56 1 A. Meyer 2 documents, all those police reports? 3 I'm not sure actually. We saw Α some of them. 4 When did you receive the 6 documents? 7 We're picking them up today. So you don't actually have them 9 yet? 10 No, but we did have one person 11 from Concerned Citizens, he has them in his 12 possession, so we were able to see about a year 13 or two of the police reports. 14 Got it. Can you talk about the 15 prostitution issue in paragraph 78? Have you 16 seen any evidence of prostitution? 17 No, but it's what I've heard. 18 What have you heard? 19 That there was prostitution going 20 on in the casino and around the casino. 21 Who did you hear that from? 0 22 Α Just people in the neighborhood 23 and my husband's friends who are police officers 24 told us. 25 So, police officers told you that

```
61
 1
                         A. Meyer
 2
                   Well, how do you know about it?
            0
 3
                   Because they're our friends.
            Α
     tell us, "In your backyard there's prostitution
 4
 5
     going on."
 6
                   Then you used that information to
 7
     make these allegations?
 8
                   I mean, first of all, some of
 9
     these allegations are just based off what goes
10
     on in casinos in general.
11
                   So this isn't specific to this
12
     casino, is that what you're saying?
13
                   My husband had seen so many of
14
            He works in the surrounding areas.
15
     knows which once are prostitutes and which ones
16
     are not. He sees them walking all over the
17
     casino.
18
                   Maybe we can move on from this
19
     line of questioning if you can testify that this
20
     allegation is not based on the conditions of the
21
     VLT facility next to your house. You're talking
22
     about in general, right?
23
                          MR. BOROVINA: Objection to
24
                   that question. And she's not
25
                   making that representation.
```

66 1 A. Meyer 2 with respect to this allegation, you're saying 3 this is casinos in general, not necessarily the Delaware North facility? I don't want to testify to that because that's not necessarily the truth. mean, that's partially, you know, the reason, but I do know that people had said that there's been prostitution. 10 And I need to know who those 11 people are. 12 I can't give you that information. Α 13 Are you refusing to answer that 14 question? 15 Α They work there -- it's their --16 yes, I am. 17 You're refusing to answer that 18 question? 19 Α I have to. 20 MR. MALCOMB: We'll move 21 Let the record reflect that 22 the witness refused to answer the 23 question. Drug addiction, what information 24 25 are you basing that allegation on?

```
67
 1
                          A. Meyer
                   The same exact thing as the
 2
            Α
     prostitution; people that work in narcotics and
 3
     undercover.
                   I'm assuming that you're not going
     t.o --
                   I can't.
            Α
                   -- tell me that information
 9
     either?
10
                   I can't.
11
                   So there are these unnamed people
12
     making these allegations that you've parroted in
13
     this Complaint and we can't ask any questions,
14
     right?
15
                   But if there's an undercover
16
     officer on a job, how am I supposed to give that
     information?
                   It's not my --
17
18
                   No, I understand, but let me ask
19
     you this because you're married to a police
20
     officer, I don't have any family members who are
21
     police officers, I don't know all the rules on
22
     how it works off the top of my head here, but
23
     let me ask you this, to your knowledge, if
24
     somebody's working undercover, are they supposed
25
     to tell other people?
```

		69
1	A. Meyer	
2	MR. BOROVINA: All right.	
3	Q So are you refusing to answer the	
4	question on drug addiction?	
5	MR. BOROVINA: That	
6	question drug addiction? What	
7	question are we talking about?	
8	Q Are you refusing to answer the	
9	question about your source of knowledge on drug	
10	addiction?	
11	MR. BOROVINA: Other than	
12	what she's already testified to?	
13	MR. MALCOMB: Correct.	
14	A Yes.	
15	MR. MALCOMB: She's	
16	testified that it comes from these	
17	people that we can't tell you.	
18	MR. BOROVINA: That's not	
19	the sole source of her testimony.	
20	That it came from verbal	
21	communications as well.	
22	MR. MALCOMB: Of course it	
23	came from verbal communications.	
24	That's what we're talking about.	
25	MR. BOROVINA: She said she	

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87
 1
                          A. Meyer
 2
                    identities, that she's not going
                   to reveal them, and we will be
 3
                   reserving our right to move to
                    compel her testimony.
                           That's all the questions I
                   have at this time.
 8
     EXAMINATION BY
     MR. STANTON:
10
                   Ms. Meyer, my name is Mike
     Stanton. I represent the Village in this
11
12
     proceeding.
13
                   You testified earlier that when
14
     you purchased your home, you did not rely on the
15
     Village's Master Plan, do you recall that
16
     testimony?
17
                   Yes.
18
                   That testimony was accurate?
19
            Α
                   Yes.
20
                   Have you ever seen the Village's
21
     Master Plan?
22
            Α
                   No.
23
            0
                   Never to this date?
24
            Α
                   No.
25
                   So, it's safe to assume that
```

```
97
 1
                          A. Meyer
 2
                   And then he'll turn it over to us.
            0
 3
                           MR. MALCOMB: Can we go off
                   the record for a second.
                           (Discussion held off the
 6
                   record.)
                           MR. GRAHAM: Back on the
                   record.
                   And I believe you testified that
10
     to your knowledge, no one has been charged with
     a crime as a result of any of the phone calls
11
12
     that you made to the police, right?
13
            Α
                   No.
14
                   Is that right?
            Q
15
                   That's right.
            Α
16
                   So, you're not aware of anybody
     being arrested or getting a ticket or anything?
17
18
                   No.
19
                   Of these 15 to 20 calls, do you
20
     remember in substance what you said on any of
21
     these calls to the police officer that answered
22
     the phone?
23
            Α
                   Well, it would be the responder,
24
     right, that I spoke with.
25
                   All right.
```

```
100
 1
                          A. Meyer
 2
     friendly people just looking to get to the
 3
     casino.
                   You weren't afraid or anything?
                   Not with them.
                                    Just the
 6
     suspicious people.
 7
                   Mr. Malcolm asked you a number of
 8
     questions about paragraph 78 and, in particular,
 9
     I'm just going to quote from paragraph 78 of the
     Complaint which is exhibit, I believe, Meyer A.
10
     Look at paragraph 78 on page 11.
11
12
                   Do you see that, Ms. Meyer?
13
            Α
                   Yes.
14
                   Do you remember that language
15
     where it refers to "intense increase in crime
16
     rates," do you see that?
17
                    Yes.
18
                   You haven't personally seen any
19
     criminal activity, have you?
20
                   Me with my own personal eyes?
            Α
21
            0
                   Yes.
22
            Α
                    Is urinating like the urination on
     our trees in front of our home considered a
23
24
     crime?
25
                    Is there anything else?
                                              So you
```

102 1 A. Meyer 2 your attorney, that would great. 3 I'll do that, definitely. Α So, other than that incident, any other crime that you observed? 6 I haven't seen the crime, no, but I also choose not to. MR. MALCOMB: Let's index a demand for that. 10 MR. GRAHAM: Yes. 11 MR. MALCOMB: It seems like 12 there's quite a few documents that 13 haven't been turned over in 14 discovery. 15 MR. BOROVINA: I don't 16 agree with that characterization, 17 but to the extent that they're 18 being identified now. 19 Α And that was with Concerned 20 Citizens. That was, like --21 MR. MALCOMB: Is it on your 22 telephone? 23 THE WITNESS: What was 24 that? 25 MR. MALCOMB: Where is the

	118
1	
2	CERTIFICATE
3	
4	I, EDWARD LETO, a Notary Public in and
5	for the State of New York, do hereby certify:
6	THAT the witness whose testimony is
7	hereinbefore set forth, was duly sworn by me;
8	and
9	THAT the within transcript is a true
10	record of the testimony given by said witness.
11	I further certify that I am not related,
12	either by blood or marriage, to any of the
13	parties in this action; and
14	THAT I am in no way interested in the
15	outcome of this matter.
16	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
17	my hand this 18th day of October, 2018.
18	A. NOTCY. OF
19	
20	Auril III
21	EDWARD LETO
22	
23	
24	
25	